

Matthew Bohling, 22

Matthew Bohling, 22, died September 5, 2005, while serving in Iraq. He was with a company 2/69th Armor, 3rd Infantry Division in Ramadi, Iraq. Mr. Bohling died in combat due to injuries he suffered from an improvised explosive device.

His funeral was held at Birchwood Community Church on North Birchwood Loop in Chugiak. The Rev. Brad Rud officiated. A graveside service followed at Fort Richardson National cemetery with military honors. Pallbearers included Philip Dalton, Joshua Bohling, Joshua Tudor, Jeff Harry, Sandy Nelson and Justin Wetzler.

Mr. Bohling was born November 14, 1982, in Anchorage. He graduated from high school and went into the U.S. Army infantry from August 2001 until September 2005, B company 1/29th Infantry and A Company 2/69th Armor, 3rd Infantry Division.

Mr. Bohling was a member of Birchwood Community Church, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 665 in Cloumbus, Ga., the single Action Shooter Society and the Alaska 49ers. He enjoyed hunting, shooting, fishing, four-wheeling, karaoke and dancing and loved all periods of military history.

His family wrote : Matthew was friendly loving and loyal. He lived life with a joyful exuberance, seeing a friend in most everyone."He enjoyed all things military and especially military history. From his early childhood he wanted nothing more than to be a soldier. As soon as he was finished with high school, he joined the Army and left for Infantry Division at Fort Banning and was deployed to Iraq for his second time. He died doing a job he loved , protecting America from those that might do us harm.

"He was a Christian, a patriot, a loving son and brother and a fiercely loyal friend. We miss him dearly but know he is at peace, happy and awaiting our certain reunion with him."

He is survived by his parents, Charles and Sandra Bohling; Brother Joshua Bohling; sister Sarah Tudor, all of Eagle River; grandmothers, Charlotte Bohling of Aberdeen, S.D., and Rosalia Schmidt of Onaka, S.D.

Memorial contributions can be made to Operation Bless Our Troops, Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, 1 Billy Graham Parkway, Charlotte NC 28201-0001. Flowers are also welcome at the service.

Arrangements were with Witzleben Family Funeral Home and Crematory.